

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE**

**April 10, 2007**

During World War II, 250,000 Filipino men joined the U.S. Armed Forces in the months before and the days just after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. For the next several years, they represented the United States on the battlefield, in war camps, and as part of the guerrilla resistance. Accordingly, Washington promised them the same health and pension benefits as their American brothers.

However, on February 18, 1946, the Congress passed and President Truman signed Public Law 70-301, known as the Rescission Act of 1946. It states that the service of Filipinos "shall not be deemed to be or to have been service in the military or national forces of the United States or any component thereof or any law of the United States conferring rights, privileges or benefits."

Sixty one years later, their cause has been taken up by Representative Bob Filner (D-California), and Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) who have introduced the Filipino Veterans Equity Act in Congress which would grant them full benefits.

**- M O R E -**

**MOTION**

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____

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Less than 70,000 Filipino veterans are still alive today, and that number dwindles as the youngest of them approach eighty. While the military benefits are much needed, perhaps even more importantly to these men, is that their service will ultimately be recognized.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Direct the CAO's Intergovernmental Unit to actively support H.R.760 and S57 by writing a five signature letter of support to Representative Bob Filner and Senator Daniel Inouye, the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation, and California Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein.

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